

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5           1.     A method for providing a business engine using platform independent business rules, comprising:
- providing a platform dependent business engine;
- encoding a set of business rules in extensible style language translator ("XSLT") to obtain an XSLT business rule component comprising the platform
- 10   independent business rules, the XSLT business rule component operative to perform logical manipulations based on the platform independent rules; and
- coupling the XSLT business rule component with the platform dependent business engine to create the business engine using the platform independent business rules.
- 15           2.     The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
- providing an updated XSLT business rule component comprising updated platform independent business rules; and
- loading the updated XSLT business rule component into the platform
- 20   dependent business engine to obtain an updated business engine using the updated platform independent business rules.
3.     The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
- employing an extensible markup language ("XML") document type
- 25   definition to facilitate coupling the XSLT business rule component with the platform dependent business engine.

4. A method of providing a plurality of business engines that include platform independent business rules, the method comprising:

encoding a set of business rules in extensible style language translator ("XSLT") to obtain the platform independent business rules; and

5 coupling the platform independent business rules with a plurality of platform dependent business engines using an extensible markup language ("XML") document type definition to provide the plurality of business engines.

5. The method of Claim 4, further comprising:

10 providing updated platform independent business rules by updating the platform independent business rules using XSLT; and

coupling the updated platform independent business rules with each of the plurality of platform dependent business engines to obtain an updated plurality of platform dependent business engines.

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6. A method for providing a common business service ("CBS") unit used in conjunction with an application program, the CBS unit using platform independent business rules, comprising:

encoding a set of business rules in extensible style language translator ("XSLT") to obtain an XSLT business rule component comprising the platform independent business rules, the XSLT business rule component operative to perform logical manipulations based on the platform independent business rules;  
providing a platform specific CBS unit; and  
coupling the XSLT business rule component with the CBS unit to obtain the CBS unit using the platform independent business rules.

7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:  
providing an updated XSLT business rule component comprising updated platform independent business rules by updating the platform independent business rules using XSLT; and

coupling the CBS unit with the updated XSLT business rule component to obtain an updated CBS unit using the updated platform independent business rules.

8. The method of Claim 6, wherein an extensible markup language ("XML") document type definition is used to couple the XSLT business rule component and the CBS unit.

9. A method for manipulating input data and providing output data,  
comprising:

encoding a set of business rules in extensible style language translator  
("XSLT") to obtain a set of XSLT business rules;

5 coupling the set of XSLT business rules with a platform dependent  
business engine to obtain an XSLT business engine; and

using the XSLT business engine to:

receive the input data from a source;

perform a logical manipulation of the input data based on the XSLT

10 business rules; and

provide the output data to the source.

10. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

15 providing updated XSLT business rules by updating the set of XSLT  
business rules using XSLT; and

updating the XSLT business engine by coupling the updated XSLT  
business rules with the platform dependent business engine.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein a call to a remote database is made as a  
20 result of the logical manipulation.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein a call to another business engine is made  
as a result of the logical manipulation.

25 13. The method of Claim 9, wherein when the logical manipulation comprises  
a validation of the input data.

14. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:

30 using an extensible markup language ("XML") document type definition to  
facilitate coupling of the set of XSLT business rules with the platform dependent business  
engine.

15. A method for performing a task requested by an application program comprising:

encoding a set of business rules in extensible style language translator ("XSLT") to obtain platform independent business rules;

5 coupling the platform independent business rules with a platform dependent common business service ("CBS") unit to obtain an XSLT CBS unit; and

using the XSLT CBS unit to:

receive input data from the application program;

perform a logical manipulation of the input data based on the

10 platform independent business rules; and

provide output data based on the logical manipulation.

16. The method of Claim 15, further comprising:

15 providing updated platform independent business rules by updating the platform independent business rules using XSLT; and

coupling the CBS unit with the updated platform independent business rules to obtain an updated CBS unit.

17. The method of Claim 15, further comprising:

20 using an extensible markup language ("XML") document type definition to facilitate coupling the platform independent business rules with the platform dependent CBS unit.

18. The method of Claim 15, wherein the output response is provided to the application program.

19. The method of Claim 15, wherein the output response is a call to another software unit.

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20. A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable instructions comprising:

- a set of business rules encoded in extensible style language translator ("XSLT"), wherein the encoded set of business rules can be adaptively coupled with a platform dependent business engine using a document type definition to provide a platform dependent business engine having behavior based on the set of business rules encoded in XSLT.

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